

CLAIMS LISTING

1. (original) An information carrier comprising: a rigid sheet or web support; an opaque porous receiving layer capable of being rendered substantially transparent by penetration by a lacquer, said receiving layer containing a pigment and a binder; an image provided onto and/or in said receiving layer; a cured pattern of a varnish provided onto said receiving layer provided with said image or onto and/or in said receiving layer provided with said image if said varnish is incapable of rendering said receiving layer transparent; and a cured layer of said lacquer provided on said receiving layer provided with said image and said cured pattern of said varnish, said lacquer having rendered said parts of said receiving layer in contact therewith substantially transparent, wherein said cured pattern of said varnish forms an opaque watermark.
2. (original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein the refractive index of the pigment and the refractive index of the lacquer in the receiving layer differ by no more than 0.04 and wherein the refractive index of the binder and the refractive index of the lacquer differ by no more than 0.04 when the ratio by weight of the binder to total pigment becomes larger than 0.17.

3. (original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein said rigid sheet or web support has been preprinted with a security print.
4. (original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein said image is applied by an ink-jet process.
5. (original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein said cured layer of said lacquer has been UV-cured.
6. (original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein said cured pattern of said varnish has been UV-cured.
7. (original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein said pattern of said varnish is applied by printing, spraying or jetting.
8. (original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein said image is personalized information.
9. (original) Information carrier according to claim 8, wherein said information carrier with personalized information is an identification card.
10. (original) Information carrier according to claim 9, wherein said identification card is selected from the group consisting of an identity card, a security card, a driver's licence card, a social security card, a membership card, a time registration card, a bank card, a pay card and a credit card.

- 11.(original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein said support is a rigid sheet is made of polyvinyl chloride, polycarbonate or poly(ethylene terephthalate).
- 12.(original) Information carrier according to claim 1, wherein said pigment is an inorganic pigment.
- 13.(original) Information carrier according to claim 12, wherein said inorganic pigment is silica.
- 14.(original) Information carrier according to claim 12, wherein said inorganic pigment has a refractive index from 1.45 to 1.55.
- 15.(original) An information carrier comprising: a rigid sheet or web support; an opaque porous receiving layer capable of being rendered substantially transparent by penetration by a varnish, said receiving layer containing a pigment and a binder; an image provided onto and/or in said receiving layer; a cured pattern of said varnish provided in said receiving layer provided with said image; and a cured layer of a lacquer provided onto said receiving layer provided with said image and said cured pattern of said varnish, or onto and/or in said receiving layer provided with said image and said cured pattern of said varnish if said lacquer is incapable of rendering said receiving layer transparent, said varnish having rendered said parts of said receiving layer in contact therewith substantially transparent, wherein said cured pattern of said lacquer forms a substantially transparent watermark.

16. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15, wherein the refractive index of the pigment and the refractive index of the lacquer in the receiving layer differ by more than 0.04.
17. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15, wherein said rigid sheet or web support has been preprinted with a security print.
18. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15, wherein said image is applied by an ink-jet process.
19. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15, wherein said cured layer of said lacquer has been UV-cured.
20. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15, wherein said cured pattern of said varnish has been UV-cured.
21. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15, wherein said pattern of said varnish is applied by printing, spraying or jetting.
22. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15, wherein said image is personalized information.
23. (original) Information carrier according to claim 22, wherein said information carrier with personalized information is an identification card.

24. (original) Information carrier according to claim 23,
wherein said identification card is selected from the group
consisting of an identity card, a security card, a driver's
licence card, a social security card, a membership card, a
time registration card, a bank card, a pay card and a
credit card.

25. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15,
wherein said support is a rigid sheet is made of polyvinyl
chloride, polycarbonate or poly(ethylene terephthalate).

26. (original) Information carrier according to claim 15,
wherein said pigment is an inorganic pigment.

27. (original) Information carrier according to claim 26,
wherein said inorganic pigment is silica.

28. (original) Information carrier according to claim 26,
wherein said inorganic pigment has a refractive index from
1.45 to 1.55.

29. (original) An information carrier comprising: a rigid sheet
or web support; a transparent porous receiving layer
capable of being rendered substantially opaque by
penetration by a lacquer, said receiving layer containing a
pigment and a binder; an image provided onto and/or in said
receiving layer; a cured pattern of a varnish provided onto
said receiving layer provided with said image, or onto
and/or in said receiving layer provided with said image if
said varnish is incapable of rendering said receiving layer

opaque; and a cured layer of said lacquer provided on said receiving layer provided with said image and said cured pattern of said varnish, said lacquer having rendered said parts of said receiving layer in contact therewith substantially opaque, wherein said cured pattern of said varnish forms a transparent watermark.

30. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29, wherein the refractive index of the pigment and the refractive index of the lacquer in the receiving layer differ by more than 0.04 and wherein the refractive index of the binder and the refractive index of the pigment differ by no more than 0.04.
31. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29, wherein said rigid sheet or web support has been preprinted with a security print.
32. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29, wherein said image is applied by an ink-jet process.
33. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29, wherein said cured layer of said lacquer has been UV-cured.
34. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29, wherein said cured pattern of said varnish has been UV-cured.
35. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29, wherein said pattern of said varnish is applied by printing, spraying or jetting.

36. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29,
wherein said image is personalized information.

37. (original) Information carrier according to claim 36,
wherein said information carrier with personalized
information is an identification card.

38. (original) Information carrier according to claim 37,
wherein said identification card is selected from the group
consisting of an identity card, a security card, a driver's
licence card, a social security card, a membership card, a
time registration card, a bank card, a pay card and a
credit card.

39. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29,
wherein said support is a rigid sheet is made of polyvinyl
chloride, polycarbonate or poly(ethylene terephthalate).

40. (original) Information carrier according to claim 29,
wherein said pigment is an inorganic pigment.

41. (original) Information carrier according to claim 40,
wherein said inorganic pigment is silica.

42. (original) Information carrier according to claim 40,
wherein said inorganic pigment has a refractive index from
1.45 to 1.55.

43. (original) An information carrier comprising: a rigid sheet
or web support; a transparent porous receiving layer
capable of being rendered substantially opaque by

penetration by a varnish, said receiving layer containing a pigment and a binder; an image provided onto and/or in said receiving layer; a cured pattern of said varnish provided in said receiving layer provided with said image; and a cured layer of a lacquer provided onto said receiving layer provided with said image and said cured pattern of said varnish, or onto and/or in said receiving layer provided with said image and said cured pattern of said varnish if said lacquer is incapable of rendering said receiving layer opaque, said varnish having rendered said parts of said receiving layer in contact therewith substantially opaque, wherein said cured pattern of said lacquer forms a substantially opaque watermark.

44. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein the refractive index of the pigment and the refractive index of the lacquer in the receiving layer differ by no more than 0.04 and wherein the refractive index of the binder and the refractive index of the pigment differ by no more than 0.04.

45. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein said rigid sheet or web support has been preprinted with a security print.

46. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein said image is applied by an ink-jet process.

47. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein said cured layer of said lacquer has been UV-cured.

48. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein said cured pattern of said varnish has been UV-cured.

49. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein said pattern of said varnish is applied by printing, spraying or jetting.

50. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein said image is personalized information.

51. (original) Information carrier according to claim 50, wherein said information carrier with personalized information is an identification card.

52. (original) Information carrier according to claim 51, wherein said identification card is selected from the group consisting of an identity card, a security card, a driver's licence card, a social security card, a membership card, a time registration card, a bank card, a pay card and a credit card.

53. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein said support is a rigid sheet is made of polyvinyl chloride, polycarbonate or poly(ethylene terephthalate).

54. (original) Information carrier according to claim 43, wherein said pigment is an inorganic pigment.

55. (original) Information carrier according to claim 54, wherein said inorganic pigment is silica.

56. (original) Information carrier according to claim 54,
wherein said inorganic pigment has a refractive index from
1.45 to 1.55.

57-103. (cancelled)